

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended to include limitations from claim 2, and independent claim 20 is amended to include limitations from claim 21. Example embodiments are described in paragraphs [0041] – [0047]. Claims 3 and 22 are amended to address informalities. New claims 46 and 47 are added to claim further aspects of the invention, with example embodiments described in paragraphs [0045] – [0046]. The new claims are understood to be patentable since they depend from patentable base claims. Claims 7-19 and 31-45 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 3-6, 20, 22-30, and 46-47 remain for consideration and are thought to be allowable over the cited art. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 20 and 23-30 as being anticipated by US patent 5,349,248 to Parlour et al. (“Parlour”) under 35 USC §102(b) is respectfully traversed. The rejection is moot, however, in view of the amendments to independent claims 1 and 20, which now include limitations from claims 3 and 21, respectively. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 4-6, 20, and 23-30 should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 2-3 and 21-22 under 35 USC §103(a) over Parlour in view of “Wells” (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0216081 to Wells et al.) is respectfully traversed because a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. However, the rejection is thought to be moot because Wells is removed as prior art under 35 USC §103(c) and based on the Statement of Common Ownership provided herewith. Therefore, Wells may not be used to preclude patentability, and the rejection of claims 2-3 and 21-22 should be withdrawn.

STATEMENT OF COMMON OWNERSHIP

The present application (Serial No. 10/815,483) and U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0216081 to Wells et al. were, at the time of invention of the present application, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to the assignee of the present application, Xilinx, Inc.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and a notice of allowance are respectfully requested in view of the Remarks presented above. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

Respectfully submitted,



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*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on December 13, 2006.*

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